

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-JANUARY 26, 2004

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council was called to order by Mayor Elizabeth Paterson at 7:35 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer, Thorkelson

Absent: Bellm

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the minutes of January 12, 2004 as presented.

So passed. Mr. Thorkelson abstained.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Proposed Motor Vehicle Ordinance

No comments from the public.

2. Proposed Adult Oriented Establishment Ordinance

Will be discussed later.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

No comments from the public.

V. OLD BUSINESS

3. Proposed Motor Vehicle Ordinance

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adopt the following motion:
To move, effective January 26, 2004, to adopt the proposed "Ordinance Regarding Delinquent Motor Vehicle Property Taxes," as proposed by staff in its draft dated January 12, 2004, and which ordinance will become effective 21 days after publication in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Mansfield.

Motion so passed unanimously.

4. Proposed Adult Oriented Establishment Ordinance

Will discuss this issue later.

5. Spring Weekend

Town Manager, a member of UConn President Austin's task force of Substance Abuse, informed Council that the committee has met and will continue to do so...the next meeting in Feb. 5, 2004.

6. Update of Draft State Conservation and Development Policies Plan 2004-2009

Town Council reviewed proposed letter to be sent to Mr. Daniel Morley, Planning Specialist, OPM regarding the 2004-2009 Connecticut Policies Plan of Conservation and Development.

There is a typo error under #3. C. Which should read "More accurately depict existing development areas adjacent to the Mansfield Apartments, at the corner of State Routes 195 and 275."

VI. NEW BUSINESS

7. Town of Mansfield Code Enforcement Relocation Plan

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to adopt the following motion: To Move, effective January 26, 2004 to adopt the proposed "Town of Mansfield Code Enforcement Relocation Plan" to the Code of the Town of Mansfield Connecticut.

So passed unanimously.

Return to Public Hearing 2. Proposed Adult Oriented Establishment Ordinance

Mr. Rudy Favretti, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission, supported the letter from the Town Planner which supported adoption of the proposed ordinance regulating adult-oriented establishments in Mansfield, subject to a revision of the setback from residential zones from 250 to 500 feet (Section 5), to be consistent with the zoning definition of "Neighborhood of a given lot."

Mrs. Kay Holt, a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, spoke in favor of this ordinance with the suggested revision.

At 7:48 p.m. the hearing was closed.

Return to item #4.under old business.

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to table this item under old business for the next agenda.

So passed unanimously.

8. USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to adopt the following motion: To move, effective January 26, 2004, to authorize the Town Manager to submit the attached Rural Business Enterprise Grant application in the amount of \$50,000 to the United States Department of Agriculture to help fund the preparation of the municipal development project plan for the "Downtown Mansfield Revitalization and Enhancement Project."

So passed unanimously.

9. Community Center and General Obligation Refunding Bonds

Director of Finance, Jeffrey Smith, introduced Mr. Douglas W. Gillette, from Day, Berry & Howard, the Town's Bond Counsel and Mr. William N. Lindsay, the Town's Financial Advisor, to answer any questions the Council may have on this authorization of 1999 bond refunding.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to adopt the resolutions prepared by the Town's Bond Counsel authorizing the issuance of refunding bonds for payment of all or a portion of the outstanding principal and interest of the general obligation bonds.

So passed unanimously.

Resolutions attached.

10. Contract with Regional School District No. 19

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adopt the following motion:
To move to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed Contract agreement between the Town of Mansfield and the Regional School Board for accounting, bookkeeping, data processing and risk management.

So passed unanimously.

11. Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adopt the following motion:

To move to authorize the holding of a public hearing on February 23, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to review and discuss proposed Small Cities Grant applications.

So passed unanimously.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

By consensus the Town Council requested that a letter be sent to the Mansfield Conservation Commission regarding sending of letters to State offices prior to approval of Council.

There will be a hearing on changing the structure of Trash Fees on Feb. 3, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Gregory Haddad moved to accept the following appointments and reappointments to Town Committees:

Reappoint: Donna McLaughlin, 141 Lorraine Drive to Mansfield School Readiness

Council

Appoint: Nancy Hovorka, 47 Monticello Lane to Mansfield School Readiness Council

Appoint: Tresca Marr-Smith, 45 Candide Lane to Mansfield School Readiness Council

Seconded by Mr. Clouette.

Motion so passed unanimously.

Mr. Gregory Haddad moved to accept the following appointment of Gretchen Hall, 62 Crane Hill Road, to the Mansfield Housing Authority.

Seconded by Mr. Clouette

Motion so passed unanimously.

By consensus the Council will send a letter of thanks to Esther McCabe for her years of service on the Housing Authority.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Schaefer presented an article on recycling/waste management to Town Manager who will include it in the next packet.

Mayor reported that she and Mr. Haddad are on a subcommittee for the Downtown Partnership. This subcommittee is sponsoring a fall event on Sept. 12, 2-4 p.m. The Mayor attended a ceremony for Eagle Scouts Jeremy Crossgrove and David Rogers. Both completed projects in Mansfield.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Judge was ruled in favor of the Town, Planning and Zoning Commission, on the issue of the Hellenic Society project on Dog Lane. There is a twenty-day appeal by the neighbors.

There will be an EIE on the proposed football practice facility on the UConn campus tomorrow at the Bishop's Center at 6:30 p.m.

The Community Conversation follow-up was held on January 24, 2004 and was well attended. It was held from 9-11 am in the Audrey P. Beck Building. Approximately 60 people attended.

Kevin Grunwald, Director of Social Services was complimented on the excellent job his staff and volunteers did on this project. Over 100 persons participated in the program. The persons participating gave positive feedback and had a positive experience. The group is now looking at some action plans-on all day kindergarten, assessing the needs of young persons, and further discussed how we finance early education. The Mayor, Town Manager and Council members Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Paulhus attended the session.

The State Legislature will come into session in the next few weeks.

The Downtown Partnership finance committee has met and discussed the grant, which was passed tonight.

Congressman Simmons is looking for ideas for entitlement and is looking to a possible project with the Downtown Partnership. This would be submitted through WINCOG.

The Town/Gown held a meeting on the 13th.

Downtown Partnership Director Cynthia vanZelm, has put together a brochure on the town of Mansfield giving information about the Town and its services.

The Planning and Design Committee is going to Princeton N.J to gather information on their downtown.

Assistant Town Manager, Matt Hart and wife Kara have just had their first baby, a girl Sophie Ann. Both baby and parents are well.

There will be a special meeting of the Town Council on Feb. 7, 2004 in the Senior Center at 9:00 a.m.

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

XII. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 12. FEMA re: Emergency Snow Declaration, December 5-7, 2003
- 13. William Casper Graustein Discovery Grant
- 14. Mansfield Pre-paid Trash Proposal
- 15. UCONNDOT re: 2004 Construction Season Paving Program
- 16. UCONN Hazardous Waste Storage Facility Site Study

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 p.m. Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to adjourn the meeting.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk

